

The Romulus News

MARCH 11, 2005 – MARCH 24, 2005

"the little paper"

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 16

Timely Tidbits ...

Romulus "Curves" Sponsors Food Drive

The Curves 30-minute fitness & weight-loss center in downtown Romulus is joining Curves International, Inc., in its "Curves Food Drive" to benefit local food banks.

Throughout March, anyone joining the Romulus Curves location may waive the normal service fee by bringing in a bag of nonperishable groceries. (For more information, see the ad on page 7.)

Franchise owners Aubrey and Helen McNally say that non-members may also drop off food during the store's regular business hours.

Last year, the Romulus Curves collected 1,533 pounds of food for the Helping Hand.

Good Friday March

The Romulus Ministerial Association will host its annual Good Friday March on March 25. Lineup will begin at 11 a.m. at the gazebo in Romulus Historic Park. At 11:30 a.m., marchers will make their way down Goddard to the Romulus Wesleyan Church at Five Points, where a nondenominational community service will immediately follow the march.

Everyone is welcome.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Recreation Department's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Elmer Johnson Park (Ozga south of Wick) promptly at noon on Saturday, March 26. The hunt – which will feature a number of special eggs containing tickets for prizes – will be divided into four age groups:

- age 3 and under,
- 4 to 5 years of age,
- 6 to 7 years of age, and
- 8 to 10 years of age.

All participants must bring their own basket or bag to carry collected eggs.

Preregistration is *not* required to participate in this free program. All families should report to the tennis-courts area upon their arrival at the park. Pictures with the Easter Bunny will be available for \$2 each. □

Barth's Kline Is WCRESA "Teacher of the Year"



Gerilyn Kline (second from left), a fifth-grade teacher at Barth Elementary School, is the first Romulus teacher ever to win the Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency's "Elementary Teacher of the Year" award. To receive such an award is truly a mark of distinction, since each year's honoree is chosen from among the elementary school teachers in 33 Wayne County school districts. Here, Kline is pictured with students (from left) Marcia Taylor, Shannon DeFoe, and Joseph Forbush at a recent meeting of the Romulus Community Schools Board of Education, where they made a presentation about "core democratic values."

Gerilynn Kline, a fifth-grade teacher at Barth Elementary School, has been named Elementary Teacher of the Year by the Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency (RESA), according to RESA superintendent Dr. Marlene Davis. Kline – the first Romulus teacher ever to receive this award – was chosen from among elementary teachers in 33 of RESA's 34 districts (excluding Detroit). She will be honored at the annual RESA Awards Night in May.

Joel R. Carr, superintendent of the Romulus Community Schools, was very impressed with Kline's selection.

"Our district is highly honored to have one of our teachers receive such a distinguished award," he said.

Barth principal Diane Golka was overjoyed when she first heard the news.

"Gerilynn is certainly deserving of this award," said Golka. "She has consistently distinguished herself by leading both her own students and Barth Elementary School to many outstanding achievements and accomplishments. Her extra work after school, evenings, and during the summer as facilitator helped Barth receive a 2005 State of

Michigan Blue Ribbon award, two State of Michigan Golden Apple awards, and a 2001 Middle Cities Muth 'Excellence in Education' award."

Golka was equally complimentary about Kline's classroom work.

"Gerilynn consistently uses creative and innovative strategies to pique interest and enhance student achievement in her classes," Golka continued. "She takes an active role in coaching students toward academic excellence, and encourages their involvement in extra-curricular activities."

"Gerilyn is an exceptional instructor who stresses teamwork, responsibility, accountability, and integrity, and inspires us all to achieve excellence in education," she concluded.

Kline has received many accolades from her past students. "Ms. Kline is one of the best teachers in the world," said one. "She treated us equally, would do anything to help us learn, and never gave up on us." Another said, "Ms. Kline is your special friend, and she always makes you think." Students often invite her to birthdays, recitals, plays, sporting events, and other community events to

celebrate their accomplishments.

Teacher of the Year winner Kline has many effective techniques for enhancing student achievement, according to Golka. She reviews and signs daily planners for each student, makes online and paper copies of her weekly newsletter available for students and parents, has home/school folders with weekly assignments and progress reports, and frequently calls parents to guide them in how they can help their child with school work.

Kline also expects students to take responsibility for their actions, and requires students who do not comply with her classroom expectations to construct a plan that identifies the problem and proposes an appropriate alternative behavior. She uses Peer Mediation to resolve minor incidents. She also rewards students for exemplary behavior by giving them Barth-Bucks, which can be cashed in for special prizes such as school supplies, ice cream, homework passes, an opportunity to eat lunch with the principal, or a chance to be teacher for a day.

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Guest Commentary

Mayor Addresses Finance Rumors

by Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert

Friends and neighbors, you can certainly tell it is an election year in Romulus. People are already spreading a lot of rumors, including rumors about the current state of our city's finances. I would like to take this opportunity to set the record straight with a few facts.

Four years ago, when I was elected mayor of Romulus, I promised the residents that I would be fiscally responsible. It's a promise that I have kept by presenting our city council with a balanced budget for the past three years – a feat that has not been easy, considering the disappointing state of our economy.

Since the State of Michigan began cutting revenue sharing in 2001, Romulus, like other local governments, has faced difficult budget times. This topic has been the subject of much public discussion, particularly last year during the budget process.

Our General Fund/general government spending in 2004 is at nearly the same level it was in 2001 – which is saying a lot, considering all of the improvements we have made to our city.

For instance:

- We added a full-time fire department, yet were actually able to reduce our total public-safety costs by reorganizing the command structure of our police department.

- Ground has already been broken for a well-deserved new senior-citizens' center, and we are in the planning stages for a much-needed new state-of-the-art recreation center. We intend to hold the groundbreaking for the new rec center by the end of this year. Both the senior-citizens' and recreation facilities will be provided with *no increase in taxes*.

We have been able to accomplish all of this without cutting services to our residents, and with not one layoff of a city worker.

Many communities are having problems even balancing their budgets, but my administration has been able to balance the budget and make drastic improvements in our city, while our expenditures have gone up only one percent in the last three years.

I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish despite the hard economic times we face, and I look forward to presenting the Romulus City Council with a fourth balanced budget this year.

Please don't be fooled by the vicious rumors you will be hearing during this election year. I assure you that I will always provide and show you the facts.

Editor's note: The "Guest Commentary" column is open to responsible individuals who would like to address issues of interest to people who live and work in Romulus. □

Guest Commentary

Romak Addresses Issue of Qualifications

by Romulus City Councilwoman Debbie Romak

As I continue my campaign to become the next mayor of Romulus, I am sometimes asked whether my current experience in the legislative (city council) branch of government has given me the necessary qualifications to fill an executive (mayoral) position.

Although the duties of a councilman are not the same as those of a mayor, I strongly believe that serving as a legislator has prepared me to be our city's chief administrator.

City Council plays an important role in local government. Being a council member for the past 10 years has been a great learning experience for me. Approving or denying items brought forth by the mayor is not the council's only function. Councilmen are the voice of the citizens, and serve as one of the checks and balances of good government. Most importantly, council holds the key to establishing sound, fair, and equitable policies, ordinances, and regulations. That experience gives a person the ability to administer/execute policy that has been set forth by the council.

Like most of Michigan's 272 cities, Romulus doesn't stand alone, and many council members throughout our state have made the transition to the administrative branch. To name only a few:

- William Oakley served on both the school board and the city council before becoming mayor of Romulus.
- Beverly McAnally was a city council member before being elected as treasurer and (later) mayor of Romulus.
- Even Alan Lambert began as a member of our city's legislative branch before becoming our current mayor.

I have the ability to successfully perform the mayoral duties established by our city charter, including the administration of our \$20.5-million corporation budget (adopted fiscal year 2004/2005).

On November 8, 2005, citizens will make a choice in leadership. As your mayor, I will use a hands-on approach in administering the day-to-day operations of our city. I have the heartfelt compassion and desire to face the challenges of our community – challenges which many have left behind once elected. I look forward to continuing my service to the community at its highest level. □

The Romulus News

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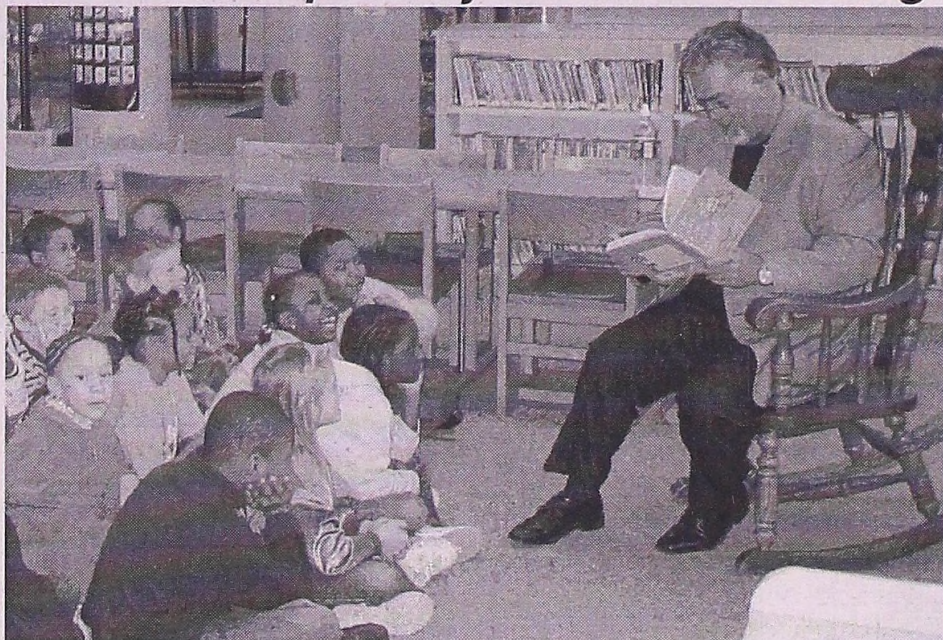
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Lambert Helps Cory Celebrate Reading



Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert helped Cory Elementary School celebrate National Reading Month by reading a story to second-graders in Ms. Askew's class.

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of the campaign

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Debbie

City To Seek Public Input on New Rec Center, Programs

By Kristi Stephens

The City of Romulus has scheduled a public workshop to discuss plans for a proposed new Romulus Recreation Center facility at Wayne and Northline roads. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road, at Goddard) on Tuesday, March 22, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Community Development director Tim Keyes, and the Romulus City Council are strongly urging the public to participate in the planning process for the facility, which will be constructed with Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) funds rather than City tax dollars.

"We're going to be asking residents, church groups, school students, and parents to get involved in this," Lambert told the Council during its February 28 meeting. "We'd like as many people as possible ... to help us decide what's best for the community."

Council chairman Randy Gear agreed, saying, "It's a community thing, so the community should be involved. They're the ones who will be using the facility; they should have some say in what it will offer."

Overseeing the initial planning and cost-assessment process for the new facility will be JRV Management. Council approved an expenditure of not more than \$6,500 for the company's services.

Of that \$6,500, Community Development director Keyes will ask the local TIFA board to cover the \$4,500 portion earmarked for "needs assessment," which he says is a "legitimate TIFA expense from an architectural or building/development standpoint." The remaining \$2,000 – to be used for cost analysis – is not TIFA eligible, he added.

The "needs assessment" process will involve compiling data from public hearings, citizen "focus groups," and questionnaires to determine what type of facilities and programs will best serve Romulus residents. According to Keyes, the City hopes to complete the information-gathering process by the end of this month, and to have JRV return with a "dollars-and-cents report" by the end of April.

Lambert, Keyes, various Councilmen, and other members of the community have already begun touring recreation facilities in neighboring cities, hoping to learn from their successes – and their mistakes. Lambert noted that the officials in these communities have been both friendly and helpful.

"They're telling us what's really good in their programs, and they're being honest about what's not good," he explained. "They're trying to give us the best advice possible."

Chairman Gear was also enthusiastic about the feedback they've received.

"Mayor, it was an excellent idea that you had, inviting us to come along so that we could look at these different venues," he said. "Here in Romulus ... we've always had a good recreation program, but we've never had a really large center like other cities do. [These tours are allowing us to] go out, look at different facilities, and find out some of their pros and cons ..."

Regarding the facility's future operation costs – which, as Councilman Charles Miller pointed out, *cannot* be paid for using TIFA monies – Community Development director Keyes said that a number of options are being examined, including the establishment of membership/usage fees, the solicitation of corporate sponsorships, and/or turning over the facility's operation to an outside company or agency. Ultimately, he said, the decision will be up to the City Council.

Mayor Lambert assured Council that the issue is being handled responsibly. Referring to a recent newspaper article about cities whose recreation centers are experiencing financial difficulties, he said, "We're doing due diligence; we're making sure that that's not going to happen [to us]."

Other news from the February 28 Council meeting ...

Budget Workshops, Public Hearing

The Romulus City Council has scheduled two workshops – one on Monday, April 11; the other on Monday, April 25 – to study the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2005/2006. Both workshops will start at 6 p.m.

A public hearing on the proposed budget will be held in the Council Chambers at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road, at Goddard) on Monday, May 2, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Citizen participation is strongly urged.

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The Police Blotter

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of Romulus Police Department activity during the period of February 20–March 5, 2005.

Sunday, February 20

- 2:52 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 35500 Margaret)
- 9:27 a.m. – Larceny (block of 35600 Stephanie)
- 10:21 a.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 9000 Wickham)
- 11:06 a.m. – Larceny (block of 6980 Ranger)
- 1:16 p.m. – Family Trouble (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:12 p.m. – Rescue (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:11 p.m. – Threats (block of 6980 Ranger)
- 5:23 p.m. – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Complaints (block of 6200 Edmund)

Monday, February 21

- 12:53 a.m. – ORV Complaints (block of 17000 Huron River Drive)
- 3:29 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 27400 Goddard)
- 4:46 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 33100 Annapolis)
- 10:13 a.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 5930 Chamberlain)
- 10:35 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 36200 Cypress)
- 1:35 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 15900 Merriman)
- 6:58 p.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 7100 Middlebelt)
- 7:06 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 7020 Sargent)
- 7:45 p.m. – B&E (block of 38300 Van Born)

Tuesday, February 22

- 1:22 a.m. – Stolen Vehicle (Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile, or UDAA) (block of 29100 Airport Drive)
- 9:14 a.m. – UDAA (block of 9860 Harrison)
- 10:36 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 10100 Diane)
- 6:28 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 34800 Malcolm)
- 10:07 p.m. – Larceny (block of 30700 Eureka)

Wednesday, February 23

- 2:02 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7100 Wayne)
- 4:26 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7050 Niagara)
- 10:52 a.m. – Bomb Threats (block of 28600 Northline)

- 2:52 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 11100 Shook)
- 6:38 p.m. – B&E (block of 7380 Hollywood)
- 9:04 p.m. – B&E (block of 29000 Smith)
- 9:21 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 14000 Hannan)
- 9:57 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6760 Merriman)
- 10:06 p.m. – Fight (block of 37100 Porter)
- 10:29 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 5820 Middlebelt)
- 11:12 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Streamway)

Thursday, February 24

- 2:25 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 11100 SB I-275)
- 3:24 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:44 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 9510 Michael)
- 7:11 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)

Friday, February 25

- 11:20 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 5840 Metro)
- 2:01 p.m. – Family Trouble (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:32 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 36800 Porter)
- 9:45 p.m. – B&E (block of 5920 Georgia)

Saturday, February 26

- 3:06 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 29300 Airport Drive)
- 4:08 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 16300 Inkster)
- 4:25 a.m. – Larceny (block of 32100 Henry Ruff)
- 4:43 a.m. – B&E (block of 7000 Niagara)
- 12:00 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 6110 Central)
- 3:05 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:44 p.m. – Malicious Destruction of Property (MDOP) (block of 36400 Eureka)
- 6:09 p.m. – Fleeing & Eluding (block of 15600 Isabelle)
- 9:23 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 39000 Wade)
- 9:25 p.m. – MDOP (block of 39000 Superior)
- 11:01 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 11:35 p.m. – Threats (block of 35400 Avalon)

Sunday, February 27

- 12:09 a.m. – MDOP (block of 9550 Michael)
- 12:20 a.m. – MDOP (block of 9560 Michael)
- 3:41 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 6390 Columbus)
- 7:22 a.m. – Health and Safety (block of 8280 Wayne)
- 2:12 p.m. – MDOP (block of 38000 Castle Drive)
- 6:13 p.m. – MDOP (block of 9700 Michael)
- 6:38 p.m. – Missing Person (block of 6720 Merriman)

Monday, February 28

- 2:56 a.m. – MDOP (block of 36200 Vinewood)
- 3:34 a.m. – MDOP (block of 35900 Vinewood)
- 12:12 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 34600 Van Born)
- 1:40 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 35400 Goddard)
- 7:15 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 36800 Porter)
- 9:24 p.m. – B&E (block of 30700 Van Born)
- 10:08 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 34300 Pine Wood Circle)

Tuesday, March 1

- 12:20 a.m. – UDAA (block of 8600 Merriman)
- 4:42 a.m. – Death Investigation (block of 30400 Cherry)
- 10:50 a.m. – Death Investigation (block of 30400 Dorset)
- 4:23 p.m. – Larceny (block of 30500 Flynn Drive)
- 10:24 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 28800 Leroy)

Wednesday, March 2

- 8:04 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 11000 Grover)
- 10:51 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:51 a.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:52 a.m. – Vagrant (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 1:34 p.m. – Larceny (block of 27500 Northline)
- 2:10 p.m. – OUIL (block of 35800 Eureka)
- 3:03 p.m. – MDOP (block of 15000 Knoll Way)
- 4:06 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 9820 Gary)
- 8:49 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 15000 Pond Way)

- 10:13 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 15000 Brandt)
- 10:22 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 38900 Rodeo)

Thursday, March 3

- 12:27 a.m. – UDAA (block of 7240 Hollywood)
- 9:10 a.m. – Rescue (block of 11100 Wayne)
- 12:33 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 36500 Grant)
- 1:13 p.m. – Larceny (block of 30400 Ecorse)
- 4:40 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 36500 Grant)
- 4:43 p.m. – Threats (block of 6050 Metro)
- 7:02 p.m. – B&E (block of 15000 Mountain Way)

Friday, March 4

- 3:48 a.m. – Rescue (block of 27400 Ecorse)
- 4:03 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 9270 Middlebelt)
- 4:23 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 8960 Inkster)
- 5:30 p.m. – Drug-related Activity/Investigation (Violation of Public Health Code, or VPHC) (block of 9950 Wayne)
- 6:04 p.m. – Trespassing (block of 16300 Cork Tree)
- 6:45 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 35800 Beverly)

Saturday, March 5

- 12:04 a.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 27600 Newcastle)
- 8:24 a.m. – MDOP (block of 7820 Hannan)
- 9:51 a.m. – Larceny (block of 9800 Harrison)
- 3:05 p.m. – OUIL (block of 15000 Wahrman)
- 6:46 p.m. – Larceny (block of 27400 Ecorse)
- 11:21 p.m. – Fight (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 11:22 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (block of 31500 Wick)
- 11:34 p.m. – Threats (block of 35400 Smith) □

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PEN Library Helps Kids Read



Gina Wilson (right), director of the PEN Enrichment Center at Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church, and Sheila Vanfield of Bank One show Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert the new library designed to help educate children who participate in the reading program at the church.

The PEN Enrichment Community Center – located at 35625 Vinewood in Romulus – received 846 books for its Family Literacy Program thanks to Bank One's Global Days of Service project. Led by project coordinators Wendy Rought and Sheila Vanfield from the bank's Detroit main office, 102 Bank One employees donated new or gently used books for children of all ages.

The PEN's literacy program encourages children and their parents to read more, and assists children who are reading below their grade level.

* * *

Other "PEN points" ... Grant To Fund Tobacco Awareness Program

PEN's Youth In Action of Romulus has been awarded a Special Populations grant from Prevention Network. Recipients of this grant have designed projects that are creative, innovative, and culturally appropriate for a special population.

The \$4,000 grant awarded to the PEN will help conduct the group's "Looking At It Differently – Youth and Community Tobacco Awareness Program."

"Projects like this represent the finest efforts of communities throughout Michigan that are working to create healthy environments free of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems," said Prevention Network director Sheila Taylor. "We know that prevention works best when it is culturally appropriate, and the projects receiving these special grants have been planned from within the target communities to meet specific prevention needs."

Prevention Network supports community involvement in prevention with a resources such as training workshops, networking/referral, and minigrants.

Visit the PEN's New Website

The PEN Enrichment Community Center invites you to visit its new Website at <http://www.thepencenter.org>. E-mail comments/questions are welcome. □

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"All-A" Students Honored at Middle School



Romulus Middle School seventh-graders who were on the All-A honor roll for the first semester of the 2004-2005 school year included: (from left) front – Louis Hill, Jazmyn Jones, Caitlynn Lefler, Ciara Turner, Sheila Watts, Krystal Wegrzyn, and Ashley Wagle; back – Karli Gibson, Justin Jadzinski, Victoria Mangham, Jesse Norman, Sheila Reeves, Brianna Shreve, Daijah Street, and Kazam Sheikh.



(From left) Romulus Middle School social worker Ron Mayfield, eighth-grade counselor Vern Logan, principal Mel Kimbrough, and (right) seventh-grade counselor Chris Julvezan congratulated eighth-graders who maintained all A's during the first semester of the 2004-2005 school year. The honorees included (from left) Ashlee Hood, Samantha Watson, and Derek Bennett.

T.L.C. FAMILY DENTISTRY

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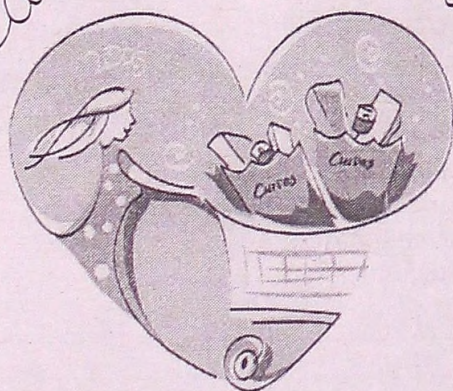
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RES Students Spearhead Tsunami Relief Fund-raiser



Jessica Jones (left) and Brittani Lincoln (right) – student leaders from Romulus Elementary's sixth grade – proudly hold up their school's \$654 check to the Salvation Army for Tsunami Relief efforts in Galle, Sri Lanka. Also pictured are: (from left) front – Gary Sadler and Denisha Spann; back – Jasmine Kozmalski, Cali Banks, Dana Robinson, and Margie McAnally (faculty advisor and CSRD grant facilitator).

Jessica Jones and Brittani Lincoln – sixth-graders at Romulus Elementary School – were touched by the devastating effects of the Asian tsunami of December 26, 2004. After watching newscasts about the event, the two decided that they just had to try to do something to help.

Jones and Lincoln had a meeting with RES principal Lynne Mossoian, and came up with a program to help the city of Galle in Sri Lanka.

Romulus Elementary holds school-wide meetings every Monday morning. During one of those meetings, Jones and Lincoln gave a detailed presenta-

tion about the way tsunamis form and how this particular tsunami devastated the Indian Ocean area. The young ladies asked their fellow classmates to donate their spare change to the tsunami relief effort. The money was collected in sandwich bags donated by RES parent Biafra Pierce. After just one week, the students had collected \$654.59, which they proudly donated to the Salvation Army.

"Our school is proud of Jessica and Brittani for their leadership in this worthy service to our world community," said Mossoian. "We are equally proud of the RES families for their big hearts and helpful hands." □

Roundup Registers Kindergartners



Families who took part in Romulus Elementary School's Kindergarten Roundup registration program on February 10 included (front, from left) Vonda Hamaton and her son Filmel Williams, and Thomas Kowalsky and his mom Katie Kowalsky. Greeting them were RES staff members (back, from left) Lynne Mossoian (principal), Debbie Dunn, Selassica O'Flynn (social worker), Marilyn Wasson, and Gretchen Notaro (learning specialist).

Schools, Teen Health Center Present Family Health Day



Romulus Community Schools Physical Education Department members who volunteered their services for a Saturday "Family Health Day" program included: (from left) front – Gayle Milspaugh, Jennifer Johnson, Kellee Kubany, Tim Jager, Sheila Stasak, Patricia McCollum, and Mark Woodson (athletic director); back – Bill Baum, Keith Brothers, Jason Balcom, and Anthony Holyszko.

Members of the Romulus Community Schools Physical Education Department and the Romulus Adolescent Health Center recently volunteered their services to welcome the community to a Saturday "Family Health Day" program at Romulus High School. A number of local families took advantage of the program and gained valuable insight into a variety of healthy lifestyle choices.

Mark Woodson, the district's Athletic Department director and head of the Physical Education Department, worked carefully with his staff and the

Health Center to develop a program that featured nutrition education as well as information about improving physical fitness through activities such as weight-training, aerobics, swimming, baseball, basketball, and volleyball. Members of the RHS coaching staff also donated time to present various clinics to both children and their parents.

Nutritionist Meg Paris of Oakwood Healthcare System gave a talk about nutrition and the importance of a proper diet. She started out by making a delicious peanut butter/banana wrap.



Oakwood Healthcare System nutritionist Meg Paris (second from left) was joined by Romulus Adolescent Health Center administrators Karen Toupin and Liz Kirshner (third and fourth from left, respectively) as well as Romulus residents Roy Williams (left), Paula Valentik (second from right), and David Jones (right) for a special nutrition presentation at the Family Health Day program.

"This combination, though unusual, provides a great deal of protein and energy for you," she explained.

Paris also urged people to learn to identify the levels of fat and salt in their food, and adjust their diet accordingly.

RHS freshman volleyball coach Rachel Broom gave tips on proper serve and return techniques. Jennifer Johnson, who teaches physical education at RHS, helped participants with their swimming strokes. And, Romulus Middle School baseball coach Thom Patterson demonstrated baseball hitting techniques.

Members of the district's Physical Education Department also appeared before the Board of Education recently to discuss elements of the elementary, middle-school, and high-school curriculum. Particular emphasis was placed on athletic/sporting activities, healthy lifestyles, and obesity. The staff members noted that several schools used pedometers so that students could see how far they walked in a day, and all used pre- and post-tests for exercises such as sit-ups, push-ups, and running to note students progress. □



The Family Health Day program, which featured information about physical fitness and nutrition, was well attended.

Cory "Soul Food Dinner" Celebrates Black History Month

More than 230 students, parents, and other community members attended Cory Elementary's recent Soul Food Dinner, one of several special programs that the school presented in celebration of Black History Month. Cory principal Phyllis Adkins and the school's co-parent coordinators, Janice Barden and Reverend Rita Talley, were very pleased with the tremendous turnout.

Local dignitaries who volunteered to serve the dinner guests included:

- 34th District Court judges Brian A. Oakley and David M. Parrott;
- a number of City of Romulus officials, including Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Clerk Linda Choate, Treasurer Pam Kersey, and Councilmen LeRoy Bur-

croff, Charles Miller, and Debbie Romak, as well as Human Resources director Sandra Rivers and Recreation director Herbert Buckley; and Romulus Community Schools officials, including Human Resources director Ed Clark and School Board members Cheryle Buckley, April Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik.

John Barden, a Cory grandparent and school supporter, also volunteered.

Altogether, the event raised \$600 for school projects. Adkins thanked the Wayne Sav-A-Lot, Chester's Chicken (Merriman and Ecorse), and Romulus Market Place for donating chicken, and Kegger's for donating ice. □



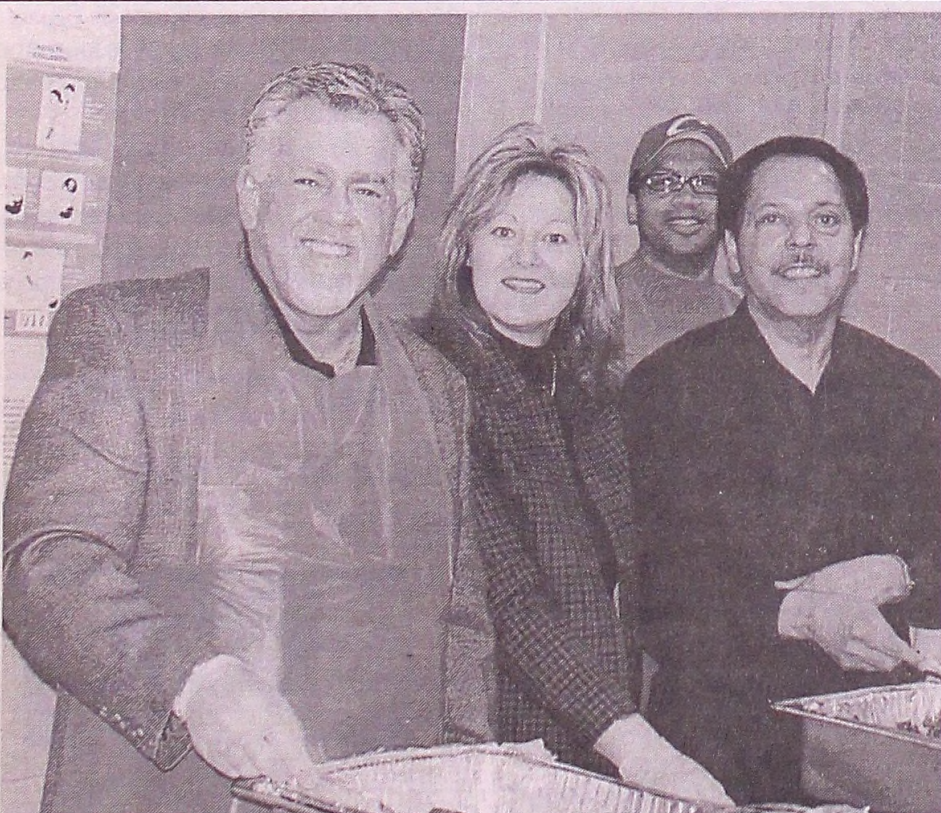
Members of Romulus Middle School's Jazz Band entertained the crowd at Cory Elementary School's recent Soul Food Dinner.



Volunteer servers included (from left) Ed Clark, director of Human Resources for the Romulus Community Schools; Romulus City Clerk Linda Choate; and Sandra Rivers, the City's Human Resources director.



Romulus City Treasurer Pam Kersey (back) joined (from left) Romulus Board of Education secretary Celeste Roscoe, president Cheryle Buckley, and trustee Niema White in the serving line.



(From left) Mayor Alan R. Lambert and Board of Education vice-president April Frayer were joined by Herb Buckley, the City's director of Parks and Recreation, and Cory Elementary grandparent/supporter John Barden.



Board of Education trustees Thomas Kuderik and Betty Lenossi also had a good time serving those who attended the dinner, which raised more than \$600 for school projects.

"Reading Night"



Among those who took part in Halecreek Elementary School's recent Family Reading Night program were (from left) Lennon and Deborah Paul, Shawntel and Cameron Dyess, and Wendy and Measha Diebel.



Literary coach Candice Walters (back) introduced families to interactive reading strategies such as echo and alternate reading. Participants included (from left) Patricia and Anita Tobin-Knight, Shari and Kilah Stewart, and Emily and Tammy Damron.

City Council Update

continued from page 3

HAVA Grant Will Fund New Voting Equipment

Following the recommendation of Clerk Linda Choate, Council approved a resolution permitting the City to apply for Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grant funds to cover the cost of 19 new optical-scan voting machines and related election-management-system software. The City *must* purchase the equipment to conform with new state election laws.

Of the 19 machines, all but one will be used to tabulate ballots for the City's 18 voting precincts (one for each), while the final machine will be used to count absentee ballots.

Choate told Council that she also will need three additional machines (two for backup; one for office use) that are *not* eligible for grant money. The purchase of these machines—about \$4,500 each—will require an amendment to the City budget.

PR Director's Contract Renewed

The Romulus City Council approved another six-month employment contract (without medical benefits) for Kathleen Trent, director of the City's Public Relations Department.

"I've had an opportunity to work with Ms. Trent, and I think she seems to be a very capable employee," said Councilman Bill Crova. "I think she's good for the City of Romulus."

Council chairman Gear agreed, telling Trent, "Since you've been here with us, you've done nothing but an excellent job. You've always stayed professional and ... you have my full support."

Following a 5-2 vote for approval (with Councilmen Miller and Debbie Romak opposing the motion), Mayor Lambert added, "We're definitely getting our money's worth."

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Councilman LeRoy Burcroff noted that the first of three free Wayne County-sponsored Household Hazardous Waste Collection programs will be held at Romulus City Hall (11111 South Wayne Road, at Goddard) on Saturday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Items accepted for disposal will include household paints, stains, floor-care products, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners, lawn & garden chemicals, and antifreeze. Electronics items such as computer monitors, printers, scanners, fax machines, and cell phones will be accepted for recycling/disposal, as well.

Residents who bring in a mercury thermometer for disposal will receive a mercury-free digital thermometer as a replacement. (Limit: one per carload.)

For more info, call the WC Resource Recovery coordinator (734-326-3936).

"Fire Lane" Established

The Romulus City Council has passed a traffic control order making Harrison Road south of Ecorse Road a fire lane. Signs—saying "No Parking—Fire Lane"—will be posted along both sides of the road, which does not exceed 22 feet in width.

Mayor Lambert and Department of Public Works director Carl Brooks said the change was necessary to keep people from "using the street as a driveway."

"Pet Shots" and "Doggie Wedding" Programs Aid Animal Shelter Fund

Councilman Bill Wadsworth took a moment to thank those who took advantage of the City's annual Dog & Cat Inoculations program to raise money for his "pet project," the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter Fund.

First on his list was Dr. Herman of Garden City Animal Hospital, who generously donated the day's "rabies shots" fees (a total of \$1,160).

Wadsworth also thanked Robin Modrzynski, co-owner of the Fluff-n-Puff pet grooming shop, for giving up her day's take for nail-clipping services.

Others who kicked in cash for the cause included Sue Clipper of Cruisin' Clippers, who donated service fees, and Diane Chapman, who sold candles to benefit the animal shelter fund.

Wadsworth additionally thanked Romulus Senior Center programs coordinator Linda Norman and her many faithful volunteers for organizing the recent "doggie wedding" that raised more than \$1,800 for the fund. □



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Diebel Nominated for Volunteer Award



Wendy Diebel (pictured with students Christian Ayala, left, and Givonna Hamilton) has been nominated for the Governor's Volunteer Award for donating significant time to Halecreek Elementary over the course of nine years. (For the past three years alone, she has volunteered more than 2,500 hours.) Principal Sharon Silveri says Diebel is "one in a million."

Kline Is Elementary Teacher of the Year

continued from page 1

Still other laudable items on Kline's curriculum vitae include:

- excellent relationships with fellow staff members;
- the successful mentoring of student teachers from Eastern Michigan University;
- participation in writing and revising district-wide assessments for language arts; and
- development of writing skills formats for district-wide professional development programs, and training of the district's fourth- through sixth-grade teachers in the 6+1 Traits of Writing program;
- outstanding student presentations on "core democratic values"—including a video presentation that explains each value in detail;
- partnership (with Greenfield Village) on a grant that used mathematics and science to create a "History of Flight" program for students;

- selection as a finalist to receive a NASA Explorer Grant that will enrich the above program by combining mathematics, science, and NASA experience;
- after-school/summer-school teaching experience;
- volunteer work at after-school events;
- service as the union representative for her school building.

Kline's achievements are recognized by co-workers and administrators throughout the district, including Tom Dolan, director of curriculum.

"Gerilynn's work ethic is amazing, and her accomplishments are a tribute to her dedication to her students, Barth Elementary, and the Romulus Community Schools," said Dolan. "The entire Romulus educational community and the citizens of Romulus congratulate Gerilynn Kline on this truly memorable achievement and the positive recognition it brings to her, our district, and the City of Romulus." □

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Scouts Take Trip, Earn Patch



Members of Cub Scouts Pack #739 display their patches and wood-burning mementos from their visit to the D-BAR-A ranch. Pictured are: (from left) front – Elliot Derickson, Carl Sandford, Johnny Toliver, Colin McWilliams, and Donovan Parks; back – Dajon Nash, Matthew Freeman, and DeMarco Woodward.

Merriman Elementary School Cub Scouts Pack #739 attended D-BAR-A Scout Ranch in Metamora, Michigan, for their annual Lincoln Pilgrimage on February 12, 2005.

Pack #739's day of fun included kick ball, tug-of-war, wood-burning crafts, milk-crate stacking, and a game of "ultimate Frisbee." While at D-BAR-A, the scouts also toured a Boy Scouts museum and observed the dedication of a statue of President Abraham Lincoln.

After the busy morning, Pack #739 attended a lunch with approximately 150 other Michigan Scouts.

According to pack leader Dean Freeman, the boys will be receiving a patch for their participation in the event. Although the newly reactivated pack has been together for only two months, this is already the third patch that the boys have earned.

"Pack #739 had not been re-chartered since 1985/86, and the pack had since fallen out of existence," said Free-

man. "Unfortunately, so has the pack's equipment, which cannot be located."

Freeman asks anyone with information about the following missing equipment to contact Merriman Elementary at 734-532-1400.

- one United States flag,
- one Troop #739 flag,
- one Pack #739 flag,
- one wooden Pinewood Derby Track,
- one Arrow of Light Bridge (approximately 6'x3'x5'), and
- one 4x8 utility trailer, which included the following contents: two metal grates for camp cooking, a U.S. Army general-purpose medium tent, pots & pans, and a library of various books, pamphlets and publications from the Boy Scouts of America.

Pack #739 also expressed thanks to Romulus City Councilwoman Debbie Romak for her assistance in acquiring a State of Michigan flag for them. The flag will be presented to the pack by State Senator Ray Basham on March 15. □

Community Calendar

- **Mayor Lambert To Host Town Meeting** – Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert will host his next Town Meeting at the Whistle Stop Diner (36542 Goddard Road) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 17. The public is welcome.
- **"Legacy Five" in Concert** – Bethany Bible Church of Belleville will present "Legacy Five" in concert at the Romulus High School auditorium (9650 South Wayne Road) on Friday, March 18, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. For ticket info, call 734-697-7456, or visit www.bethanybiblechurch.com or www.LegacyFive.com.
- **Roast Beef Dinner Fund-raiser** – The United Methodist Women of Community United Methodist Church (11160 Olive Street in downtown Romulus) are hosting a Roast Beef Dinner fund-raiser on Saturday, March 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets for the events, which will also feature craft tables and bake booths, are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children ages 6 to 12; kids 5 and under eat free. Parents can also take advantage of a kids' menu (for ages 12 and under) that features a hot dog and drink for just \$2. Proceeds from the events will go toward mission donations.
- **Friday Fish Fries at St. Aloysius** – St. Aloysius Catholic Church (corner of St. Aloysius and Neville streets, Romulus) will host a Fish Fry from 4:30 to 7 p.m. (or until sold out) each Friday through March 18. The menu will feature: fish or shrimp, choice of garlic potatoes or macaroni & cheese, vegetable of the week, coleslaw, roll & butter, choice of dessert, and choice of beverage (coffee, hot & iced tea, or lemonade). Cost is \$8 for a three-piece fish dinner, \$7 for a two-piece fish dinner, or \$4 for a one-piece fish dinner. All shrimp dinners are \$8. Children under 2 eat free (macaroni or potatoes, vegetable, roll, and drink only). For info, call 734-941-5056.
- **Friday Fish Dinners at St. Paul's** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (located at the corner of Craig and Ellis streets in New Boston) will host fish dinners each Friday through March 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. For more information, call 734-753-9048.
- **Lenten Bible Study at CUMC** – Community United Methodist Church (11160 Olive, Romulus) invites the public to attend its Lenten Bible Study program at 7 p.m. each Tuesday through March 22. Call 734-941-0736.
- **St. Paul's Hosts Lenten Services** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (located at the corner of Craig and Ellis Streets in New Boston) will host the following: Lenten services (Wednesdays at 7 p.m. through March 16), Maundy Thursday service (7 p.m. on March 24), Good Friday services (12 and 7 p.m. on March 25), and Easter services (sunrise service at 6:30 a.m., followed by breakfast, and the Festival of the Resurrection at 10 a.m.). For more information, call 734-753-9048.
- **Spring Craft Show** – The Romulus Progressive Club will host its Spring Craft Show at Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) on Saturday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Featured items will include baskets, wreaths, jewelry, hand-painted clothing, candles, and more. Space is still available for crafters/vendors who would like to participate. For more information, call the hall (734-941-3044), Jim Poet (718-3137) or Diane Poet (942-7195).
- **Kindergarten Enrollment Now Open** – Romulus Community Schools continues to accept enrollment for its all-day/every-day and half-day/every-day kindergarten programs for the 2005–2006 school year. Children who will be five years old as of December 1, 2005, are eligible. For more information, contact your neighborhood school.
- **Romulus Head Start Accepting Registrations** – The Romulus Head Start program is currently accepting registrations for the remainder of the 2004–2005 school year as well as the upcoming 2005–2006 school year. See local cable channel 19 for information on materials that must be brought to registration. For more information, please call 734-532-1903.
- **Choir Seeks Support for Fund-raiser** – The Romulus school district's choir program is urging the community to support its upcoming fund-raiser. Throughout March, from 3 and 9 p.m., residents will be contacted by phone and asked to purchase items such as delicious frozen pizza, gourmet coffee samplers, Amish-style fudge, cookie dough, and household items. All products will be delivered to your door, with no delivery charge or tip required. For information, contact Marva Hatcher (734-532-1063).

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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Recreation Programs

Our thanks to Herbert Buckley, director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Kristin Irwin, recreation coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column.

Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Payment is due at the time of registration.

Program participants should note the following general guidelines.

- Classes conducted in school buildings will not be held on "no-school" days.
- Absolutely no food or drinks are allowed in the schools.
- Proper shoes must be worn on gymnasium floors at all times.
- Payments may be made by cash or check unless otherwise noted.
- Refunds (minus a 10% administration fee) will be given only in special circumstances deemed acceptable by the Recreation Department.

For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.

Peewee Soccer League

Boys and girls in grades K-2 are invited to sign up for the Recreation Department's Peewee Soccer League, which will run from April 26 through June 2. Teams (limit six) will practice for three weeks, then play three games (one per week). Practices and games will be held on Tuesdays or Thursdays between 5 and 8 p.m. on the soccer field behind the Rec Center. (There is no weekend commitment.)

A cost of \$35 per child, or \$60 for two immediate family members, includes a T-shirt. Since space is limited, advanced registration is *strongly* urged. Deadline: Wednesday, April 20 (or when all spots are filled).

Anyone interested in coaching a peewee soccer team should contact Kristin Irwin at the Recreation Department. (Note: Background checks will be conducted.)

Youth Gymnastics

The next session of the Tumblebunnies gymnastics program – open to boys and girls ages 3 and up – will feature instruction on a variety of equipment. Classes will meet at the Rec Center each Monday from April 4 through May 23 according to the following schedule:

- ages 3 to 4: 6 to 6:45 p.m.
- ages 5 to 7: 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ages 8 and up: 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Cost is \$60 per session. Register by Monday, April 4.

Clogging

A few spots remain in the Recreation Department's spring clogging program, which began March 7. Classes, which are open to ages 7 through adult, will meet in the Cory Elementary School cafeteria each Monday through May 23 according to the following schedule:

- advanced: 6 to 7 p.m.
- intermediate: 7 to 8 p.m.
- beginning: 8 to 9 p.m.

Cost is \$25 per person. Sign up now.

Tae Kwon Do

Tae kwon do is a form of self-defense that helps participants strengthen their bodies and minds. Students enrolled in the Recreation Department's class will be taught self-discipline, self-respect, and respect for others. Classes – open to ages 7 through adult – will meet in the Romulus High School wrestling room each Tuesday and Thursday from March 22 through May 26 according to the following schedule:

- beginning: 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- intermediate/advanced: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Cost per session is \$50 for one person, \$85 for two immediate family members, or \$120 for three immediate family members. Register by Monday, March 21.

Quilting

A free drop-in quilting class meets at the Recreation Center every Thursday at 6 p.m. Quilters of all experience levels are welcome.

Ceramics for Seniors

The ceramics class for senior citizens will meet at the Recreation Center from 1 to 3:30 p.m. each Monday through June 27. Cost for the drop-in class is just \$1 per week for Romulus residents and \$1.50 for nonresidents. For more information, call 734-955-4120.

"Coaches Game"

Coaches from the Rec Center's youth basketball program will play a game against each other in the Middle School gymnasium at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 21. Admission is free.

Other Phone Numbers

Romulus residents are also encouraged to use the following telephone numbers to find out more about programs sponsored by other agencies.

- youth reading/story-time programs (Romulus Library): 734-955-4516;
- swimming (Romulus High School): 734-532-1956; and
- Little League: 734-955-6204. □

Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column.

(For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 734-955-4120.)

Limited Parking at the Center

Due to construction work on the City's new senior center, parking is at a premium right now, according to Linda Norman. The senior programs coordinator urges visitors to call ahead to check on parking availability, or to park at City Hall and call from there to arrange for a pickup.

Free Tax Preparation

From 12:30 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday through April 13, the Romulus Senior Center will be offering free tax preparation services (by appointment only) to low-income Romulus seniors (age 60 and older). The service will also be available at Romulus Tower and Whispering Willows.

A list of materials which must be brought to the appointment will be provided at the time of registration. These materials will include:

- W-2 forms,
- Unemployment compensation statements,
- SSA-1099 interest/dividends statements,
- 1099R pension/annuity statements,
- forms showing income taxes paid,
- last year's tax forms.

For more information, or to make an appointment for tax service, call or stop in at the Center.

"I Do" Redo

The Romulus Senior Center is inviting everyone to stop in at noon on Tuesday, March 15, to watch a videotape of the recent "Norman Yorkies" wedding on the Center's 45"-screen TV. Light refreshments will be served.

Club One Welcomes You!

Club One, a senior citizens' group that meets at the Romulus Senior Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m., will hold meetings on the following dates:

- March 15 (Rex's Restaurant; Westland Mall); and
- March 29 (meeting; bingo; bag lunch).

As always, new faces are welcome.

Red Hat Society Meets

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. Among the group's upcoming outings are the following:

- April 22 (lunch at McNasty's; 12 p.m.),
- May 6 (Southgate Theatre and lunch at Famous Dave's; 11:30 a.m.), and
- May 31 (Detroit Zoo; 11:30 a.m.).

For more information, please e-mail romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com or call the Center.

March Luncheon Celebrates Both St. Patrick's Day and Easter

The Senior Center's next monthly luncheon will be a double treat, since it will celebrate both St. Patrick's Day and Easter. A mixed-up menu will include fare such as Irish stew (made with beef, not mutton), deviled eggs, green jello, salad, roll & butter, and dessert.

Among the highlights of the get-together – set for 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 24 – will be a "match the pets to their owners" contest. ("I guess we'll see if the old saying about pets looking like their owners is really true!" jokes Linda Norman.)

Cost for the luncheon is just \$3.50. Space is limited; sign up soon!

New Time for Commodities Pickup

Just a reminder that the new pickup time for Commodities and Focus: HOPE is 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

This program is available to low-income individuals and families of all ages. Call the Center to check on eligibility guidelines.

Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens, including:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- "game day" (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Friday at 12:30 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

TeleCare Program Available

The Romulus Senior Center's TeleCare program provides seniors with daily phone reassurance at no cost. To learn more, call the Center's friendly staff. □

Give Your Closets a Seasonal Cleaning!

The Friends of the Romulus Public Library is asking for donations of gently used books (hardback and paperback), videos, CDs, & DVDs for its annual Spring Book Sale, planned for April. All proceeds will benefit the Romulus Library. Donations may be dropped off at the Library during normal business hours. Call 734-942-7589 for more information.

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS

P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____

Birthdate _____ Time _____

Weight _____ Length _____

Birthplace _____

Parents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Paternal Grandparents _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

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Obituaries

Mary E. "Ramona" Blair

Mary E. "Ramona" Blair of New Boston, Michigan, passed away on Saturday, March 5, 2005, at the age of 75.

The native of Chatham, New Brunswick, Canada, was born on Monday, September 2, 1929.

Ramona was a member of the Moose (Belleville, MI), American Legion Post #200 (Taylor, MI), and the Democratic Club. She enjoyed watching movies, talking on the phone, and her beloved dog, "Sarah."

Surviving Ramona are 2 daughters, Barbara A. (Hank) Chmielecki (Charles-

ton, SC) and Gloria J. (Joseph) Ballog (New Boston); 5 grandchildren; and 1 great-grandchild.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents; her husband, Henry Blair; and a sister, Shirley.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, March 9, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus, MI), with Father Alexander Wytrwal (St. Stephen Catholic Church, New Boston) officiating. Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorial tributes to the Romulus Animal Shelter would be appreciated. □

Mabel L. Toffan

Mabel L. Toffan of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, February 20, 2005, at the age of 91.

The native of Port Huron, Michigan, was born on Wednesday, May 28, 1913.

Mabel taught at St. Aloysius Catholic School when it first opened in the 1950s. She was an avid homemaker, and especially enjoyed crocheting and embroidery work.

Surviving Mabel are her daughter, Sylvia (Harold) Dubisky (Romulus); 13

grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, William and Elizabeth (Hagel) Mosher; her husband, Stephen Toffan; and a son, Earl Toffan.

A funeral service was held at St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus), with Father Festus Ejimadu acting as officiant.

Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus). □

Emma Newson

Emma Newson of Westland, Michigan, passed away on Wednesday, February 23, 2005, at the age of 77.

The former resident of Romulus, Michigan, was born in Knott County, Kentucky, on Sunday, August 21, 1927. Among her hobbies were picking fruits and vegetables, canning, and quilting.

Emma is survived by a daughter, Patricia S. (Ronald) Maitland (Westland); 3 brothers, Melvin (Liza) Johnson (Prestonsburg, KY), Frederick (Sharon) Johnson (Smiths Grove, KY), and Charles Branham (Greensburg, KY); 4 sisters, Pearl Newsome (Robinson Creek, KY), Mae (Fred) Newsome (Barrett, WV),

Mazil (French) Bates (Louisville, KY), and Mollie (Ralph) Slone (Springfield, KY); a granddaughter, Jennifer; a great-granddaughter, Breanna, and a great-grandson, Nathan.

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, Orbin and Galvesta (Hall) Johnson; her husband, Richard W. Newson; and a daughter, Linda L. Sturtz.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, February 26, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Robert J. White (Grace Baptist Church, Belleville, MI) officiating. Burial was at Romulus Memorial Cemetery.

Scholarship Applications Sought

The Romulus Mayor's Substance Abuse Task Force is currently seeking applications for six scholarships (four for \$1,000 each; two for \$500 each) that will be awarded for the 2005-2006 school year.

Students eligible to apply for the scholarships include current high-school seniors, students in alternative-education programs, and adults who will be furthering their education in a post-secondary or trade school.

Of the six scholarships, three will be awarded for community service, and three will be awarded for vocational-education recognition.

One measure of an applicant's qualification will be grades received

in classes *directly related to his/her field of study*. Overall grade point average (GPA) will *not* be a determining factor for the award. Applicants' financial needs will also be considered.

Scholarship money may be used for a student's tuition, fees, books, or other materials directly related to course requirements.

Applications (available in Mayor Alan R. Lambert's office at Romulus City Hall, 11111 South Wayne Road) must be returned to the mayor's office no later than Friday, April 29, for review by the Scholarship Committee. Applicants should note that oral interviews may also be required. □

Cecelia Poet

Cecelia Poet of Manchester, Michigan, passed away on Thursday, February 24, 2005, at the age of 92.

The native of Detroit, Michigan, was born on Friday, November 15, 1912.

Cecelia married Andrew Poet in Wayne County, Michigan, on November 19, 1938. Their family moved to Manchester in 1957. Cecelia was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Saline, where she was active in the Ruth Circle. She also belonged to the Kossel Ost Community Group and the Washtenaw County Farm Bureau, and was an active member of the Farm Bureau's Women's Committee for many years. She looked forward to competing in the homemaker contests at the Manchester and Saline fairs, where she had won Homemaker of the Year honors.

Surviving Cecelia are a son, Stanley (Beverly) Poet (Manchester); a sister, Agnes Banotai; a brother, Stanley (Sophie) Szyndlar; 4 grandchildren, Judith (Stephen) Gilmore (Britton, MI), Robert (Lynda) Poet (Manchester), Eric

(Karen) Poet (Saline, MI), and Scott (Lisa) Poet (Manchester); and 8 great-grandchildren, Deborah, William, and Richard Poet; Samantha, Erica, and McKenzie Poet; and Josie and Rebekah Gilmore.

Among those who preceded her in passing were her parents, Albert and Mary (Jazwa) Szyndlar; her husband, who passed away on January 25, 2002; 1 infant son and daughter; a brother, William; 2 sisters, Josephine and Helen; and 1 infant great-grandson.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 1, at First United Methodist Church (Saline), with the Reverend Dr. James E. Tuttle officiating. Burial was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Arrangements were made by Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home (Saline).

Memorial contributions to either the Washtenaw County Farm Council for the 4-H Youth Show, or to the Saline Community Fair Homemakers Program, would be greatly appreciated by the Poet family.

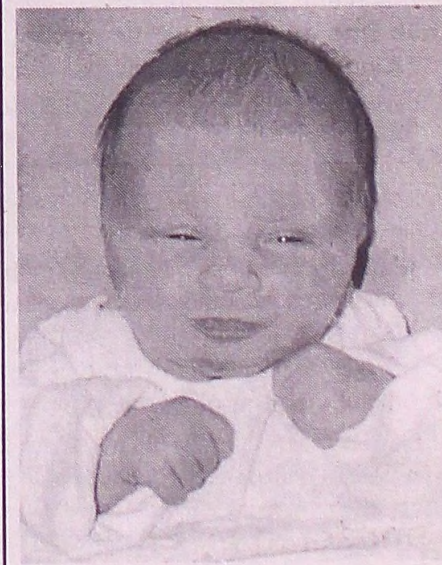
The Stork Arrived

Keith Nicholas Jesue

Keith V. and Tammy (Koivisto) Jesue of Woodhaven, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Keith Nicholas Jesue.

Keith was born in Oakwood Hospital and Medical Center (Dearborn, MI) at 3:34 p.m. on Saturday, November 27, 2004, weighing in at 6 lbs., 15 oz., and measuring 20 in.

Among those giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were his paternal grandparents, Richard and Shirley Jesue (Trenton, MI); his maternal grandparents, Ronald and Veronica "Dolly" Koivisto (Romulus, MI); his paternal great-grandparents, Josephine Jesue and Maria Horvath (both of Lincoln Park, MI); and his maternal great-grandparents, Leo and Helmi Koivisto (Rudyard, MI). □



Keith Nicholas Jesue

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